

Agricultural Report.

The report of the Department of Agriculture, for October 1872, has been issued, and as many of our readers will not receive it, we make the following extracts. (100 is an average crop).

WHEAT.

The New England States fail to report an increase in the production of wheat, with the exception of Maine. In the Middle States the falling off has been quite marked, the crop not having recovered from the effects of freezing in the winter. In the South the product is much larger than usual, both from increase of area and from superior condition. In Missouri, Kansas, Michigan and Ohio, the crop will be short; in Indiana and Illinois about the same as that of last year. The percentage of States making an increase are as follows: the comparison being with the product of last year: Maine, 100; Virginia, 101; North Carolina, 136; South Carolina, 113; Georgia, 161; Alabama, 133; Mississippi, 101; Texas, 320; Arkansas, 102; Tennessee, 200; West Virginia, 104; Indiana, 101; Wisconsin, 121; Minnesota, 130; Iowa, 112; Nebraska, 140; California, 175; Oregon, 105. A decreased product appears in the following States: New Hampshire, 98; Vermont, 95; Massachusetts, 90; Connecticut, 90; New York, 70; New Jersey, 80; Pennsylvania, 60; Delaware, 78; Maryland, 90; Ohio, 85; Michigan, 86; Illinois, 98; Missouri, 90; Kansas, 80.

The crop in Kentucky was very short last year, which gives a favorable aspect to the present comparison, the average being 178, and indicating an increase from four millions of bushels to seven. Christian, Shelby, Mercer, Spencer, and other counties claim to have doubled their last production. Shelby—Average yield, 16 bushels against 8 last year; quality improved 20 per cent. Nicholas—Fultz wheat did very well. Mercer—Average increased 25 per cent. Clinton—Larger and better than usual. Lincoln—Best crop ever raised; a portion injured by wet. Livingston—Very little wheat sown.

CORN.

The average for all the States is 108. This promises one of the largest corn-crops ever produced. The November returns will give the aggregate product upon the total area.

KENTUCKY—Shelby—Early corn matured before the drought set in; late plantings greatly shortened. Davies—Crop will reach 1,250,000 to 1,500,000 bushels. Clinton—Excellent. Adair—Well matured. Carroll—Drought in August and September reduced a very large crop to average.

COTTON.

The general average of condition is reduced to 91 in the first week in September is 82 in October. In October of last year the average was 76, which was a material reduction from that of the previous month. It will be seen that that condition is placed higher than in last year's report for October, while the area, according to our June returns, was 13 per cent. greater. The State averages are as follows: Virginia, 87; North Carolina, 90; South Carolina, 86; Florida, 76; Georgia, 88; Alabama, 82; Mississippi, 78; Louisiana, 73; Texas, 85; Arkansas, 70; Tennessee, 90.

POTATOES.

The potato crop will be comparatively short. The only States indicating average condition are North Carolina, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. It has appeared again in many portions of the New England States, the Colorado beetle, though kept under by the suggestions of the entomologists and "eternal vigilance" on the part of the grower, has been marching eastward, and in its work in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and drought has injured late potatoes in the central parts of the West.

DRAUGHTING.

A grasshopper (probably *Calyptus fuscus rubrus*) in Lincoln county, Kentucky, cut the buckwheat down close to the ground.

How to Drive Hens Away Without Poison.

From the Manufacturer and Builder.

We know of three methods: First, the old French plan; this is chiefly in Paris by men who unke it a special business. They take a deep tub with water on the bottom and a little elevation in the middle like an island, on which is only place for just one rat to sit on. The tub is covered and has a large balance valve, opening downward. On the middle of this valve a piece of dried pork or cheese is placed, and when the rat walks on it to get the cheese the valve goes down, drops the rat into the water and moves back into position. A rod is made from the rat-hole to the top of the tub by means of pieces of board ribbed with cheese, so as to make the walk attractive for the rats. In the course of a night, some ten, twenty, or even more rats may go down, and if the island is not there, they would be found dead all alive in the morning quietly swimming round; but the provision of the little island saves the trouble of killing them, because their egotistic instinct for preservation causes them to fight for the exclusive possession of the island, on which, in the morning, the strongest rat is found in solitary possession, all the others being killed and drowned around him. Second, the New York plan, invented by one of our friends. The floor near the rat-hole is covered with a thin layer of a moist mucous material. When the rats walk on it it makes their feet sore; these they lick with their tongues, which makes their mouth sore; and the result that they show this locality—not alone.

but appear to tell all the rats in the neighborhood about it, and eventually the house is entirely abandoned by them, notwithstanding the houses around may be full of rats. Third, the Dutch method. This is said to be used successfully in Holland; we have, however, never tried it. A number of rats are left to themselves in a very large trap or cage, with no food whatever; their craving hunger will cause them to fight, and the weakest will be eaten by the strongest. After a short time the fight is renewed, and the next weakest is the victim, and so it goes on till one strong rat is left. When this has been the last remains of any of the others, it is set loose; the animal has now acquired such a taste for rat flesh that he is the terror of rats, going around seeking with him rat he may devour. In an incredibly short time the premises are abandoned by all other rats, which will not come back before the cannibal rat has left or died.

Wonders of a Boarding House.

A carving knife that is not shaky in the handle, and which, on great perspicacity can be induced to cut.

A silver fork on which the precious metal is still extant, and which has its proper complement of prongs.

A chamber looking-glass, which, if not propped up with your hair brush never turns its back on you when you go to shave.

A bath which does not leak, and a water jug that is not very dangerous to lift.

A (very) grand piano, whereof the keys don't rattle like the bones of negro minstrel, and whereof you can imagine, by a powerful flight of fancy, that the notes have in their infancy been ever heard in tune.

A door mat which is not provided with a hole to trip up all your visitors when they come to call.

A table cloth or napkin without eleven holes in it.

A window that has not at the least one sash cord broken, and that does not vibrate noisily with the very slightest breeze.

An easy chair which gives you any ease when sitting in it, and wherein you may take your usual after-dinner nap, without any apprehension of a cat coming off.

A teapot, out of which, with excessive care and patience, you can contrive to pour a cupful without dropping the lid into it.

A sitting room, wherein, to avoid smoke suffocation, you need not keep both door and window open when you light the fire.

A minute in the day unmolested by an organ-grinder.

A windowshade which you can manage to pull up, even to the very top, without a wrinkle in it, and then not find it come down with a rattle on your head.

A waiting maid who looks as if she sometimes used a nail brush.

A ceiling and chimney ornament which are neither of them cracked.

A sofa all softer than a hard dead board, and which has not its springs fractured exactly in the place where you want to sit.

A picture or engraving, hung up by way of ornament, which with any candor you can call a work of art.

A pair of decanters which are not an old couple, and a half score of wine glasses any two of which will match.

A door which does not let a hurricane of draught through it, and which you can actually shut without a slam.

And, finally, a bed that you may go to without trembling, and a fill that you may pay without fear of being fleeced.

FOR SALE!

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The city limits of Clark County, Ky., adjoining the spring property, corner to the college, seminary, churches, pikes and depot. Good improvement; school, fruit, 100 apple, peach, pear, mulberry trees; grapes, strawberries, etc., never-failing spring of pure cold water in the yard, which is beautifully set with shade and evergreen trees and thickly planted with blueberries. J. S. FISKE.

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A specialty. In our stock will be found the best home-made Lasting, Kid, Pollock, Goat and Calf Shoes for women, men and children. Also Men's, Boy's and Youth's Boot and Shoes of the best manufacture.

Hats, Caps, etc., etc.

We have a Complete

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Notions and Fancy Goods.

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1. It is simple in construction, neat in appearance, and is the most easily understood and managed movable comb frame ever invented.

2. The only material required in its construction is 25 feet of lumber, the nails necessary to fasten it together and a few small scraps of wire cloth to cover ventilators. No screw, saw, eye, block and eye, hinge, pin, piece of tin, tin tube, glass, or other expensive material is used in its construction.

3. When properly used, it is the easiest device for summer and winter use, affording ample protection for the winter, and affording ample protection for the summer.

4. It is the only device for "house heating" or "house cooling" that is entirely self-sufficient, while the chambers may be continued to suit the condition of any sized colony of from one single frame to ten, enabling the keeper to regulate the animal heat of the space occupied for the colony.

5. Less time and labor is required in handling, and the breed is less exposed than in using other first-class hives.

6. While it does not claim to be positively "proof proof" under all circumstances, yet it is provided with the least expensive and most effective device for the capture and destruction of moth flies ever attached to a hive, and will do more to protect the bees from the ravages of that terrible scourge, than all the expensive and complicated "traps" ever invented, and all in most cases afford perfect protection.

7. The construction is such that the frames and false ends fit equally well either the brood or surplus chamber.

8. A number of small colonies or nuclei may be kept in the same hive, or one or more may be kept in surplus chamber, receiving all the necessary natural warmth from the colony confined to the brood chamber.

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